

INDIANA SUCCESS STORY

COMPANY MAKES FAST IMPROVEMENTS, INCREASES SALES

ABOUT ACCURATE MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS GROUP, INC.

Accurate Manufactured Products Group (AMPG) is a make-to-stock manufacturer of over 25,000 different specialty fastenings, industrial accessories, and engineered products. The privately owned, closely held family business was started in 1987 and is based in Indianapolis, Indiana. The company is responsible for maintaining inventory on all the products it manufactures, and 95 percent of its business goes through the largest industrial distribution companies in the world. With around 40 employees, AMPG measures success in terms of quality, availability, and service level.

THE CHALLENGE. Company leaders were aware of numerous improvement opportunities in the AMPG operation, but required outside assistance to accomplish their goals. They reached out to the Purdue Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), part of the MEP National Network™, for assistance with several projects. AMPG was interested in improving setup times, scheduling, and quality, achieving visual organization for work-in-process, and moving items through the system at a faster speed.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. First, Purdue MEP worked with AMPG to tackle quick changeover, implementing procedural changes to reduce set-up time, organize tooling, and modify the set-up packs to include more tooling. The project reduced the company's average set-up time from 2 hours and 15 minutes down to 40 minutes. Next, AMPG pursued ISO 9001 certification. With Purdue MEP's assistance, the company implemented visual organization and obtained certification in less than 10 months.

"This optimization allowed us to increase the number of items we manufacture without increasing manpower," explained Linda Thompson, Vice President of Operations and Finance. The company purchased additional Swiss lathes without increasing its headcount. With the enhanced system, AMPG launched a new "Print to Part in 7 Days" super-quick custom manufacturing service and is increasing sales.

"Purdue helped to organize, streamline, and monitor a complicated 24/7/365 manufacturing operation, where 25,000 items run across 27 different machine tools, with only 15 machinists. We continue to partner with Purdue MEP to maintain our advancements and identify and address other opportunities."

-Linda Thompson, VP Operations/Finance

RESULTS



Reduced set-up time to 40 minutes (down from 2 hours, 15 minutes)



Achieved ISO certification in less than 10 months



Launched 1 new service to increase sales

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Manufacturing Extension Partnership

